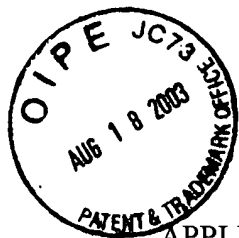


Image

2881



**PATENT**  
Docket No.: 1743/223

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Satoru YAMAGUCHI et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 10/615,864  
FILED : July 10, 2003  
FOR : SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE  
GROUP : 2881 (Anticipated)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments.